

TWENTY-SIXTH STATED MEETING OF THE AMERICAN ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION.

THE Twenty-sixth Stated Meeting, of the American Ornithologists' Union convened in Cambridge, Mass., Monday evening, November 16, 1908. The business meeting was held in Mr. William Brewster's museum, and the public sessions, commencing Tuesday, November 17, and lasting three days, were held in the Geological and Zoölogical Lecture-rooms of the University Museum.

BUSINESS SESSIONS.—The meeting was called to order by the President, Mr. Charles F. Batchelder. Sixteen Fellows were present. The Secretary's report gave the membership of the Union at the opening of the present Stated Meeting as 888, constituted as follows: Fellows, 48; Honorary Fellows, 13; Corresponding Fellows, 62; Members, 75; Associates, 690.

During the year the Union lost seventy-nine members, nine by death, forty-one by resignation, and twenty-nine for non-payment of dues. The deceased members included one Fellow, one Honorary Fellow, and seven Associates, as follows: Hon. Charles Aldrich, a Fellow, and one of the Founders of the Union, who died in Boone, Iowa, at the age of 80 years; Prof. J. V. Barboza du Bocage,¹ an Honorary Fellow, who died at the age of 84 years; and the following Associates: Prof. Leslie A. Lee,² who died at Portland, Maine, May 20, 1908, in the 56th year of his age; Prof. Francis H. Snow,³ who died in Bellfield, Wisconsin, Sept. 20, 1908, at the age of 68 years; Mrs. Ethel Richardson Chadbourne, who died at Sharon, N. H., Oct. 4, 1908; Cyrus Carleton, who died Nov. 15, 1907; Charles A. Fuller, who died March 16, 1906; Mrs. Thos. O. Conant, and Dr. Millet T. Thompson.

The report of the Treasurer showed the finances of the Union to be in a satisfactory condition.

Edward W. Nelson was elected President; Frank M. Chapman and A. K. Fisher, Vice-Presidents; John H. Sage, Secretary;

¹ For an obituary notice, see *Auk*, XXV, pp. 496-497.

² For an obituary notice, see *Auk*, XXV, pp. 340-341.

³ For an obituary notice, see *Auk*, XXV, p. 497.

Jonathan Dwight, Jr., Treasurer; Ruthven Deane, William Dutcher, F. A. Lucas, Chas. W. Richmond, Thos. S. Roberts, Witmer Stone, and Henry W. Henshaw, members of the Council.

F. DuCane Godman, of London, England, was elected an Honorary, Fellow; Otto Herman, of Budapest, Hungary, was elected a Corresponding Fellow, and the following ninety-three persons were elected Associates, namely:

Dr. Z. B. Adams, Boston, Mass.; Charles H. Ames, West Newton, Mass.; Edward Avis, Worcester, Mass.; Claude T. Barnes, Salt Lake City, Utah; Oscar E. Baynard, Micanopy, Florida; Norman deWitt Betts, St. Louis, Mo.; Clarence Birdseye, New York City; Trustin B. Boyd, St. Louis, Mo.; Mrs. Ernest E. Brewer, Portland, Maine; C. E. Brown, Beverly, Mass.; William J. Brown, Westmount, Canada; Arthur L. Browne, West Roxbury, Mass.; Frank Bruen, Bristol, Conn.; Henry P. Burt, New Bedford, Mass.; Henry R. Carey, Cambridge, Mass.; Robert C. Caskey, Morristown, N. J.; Mrs. Fannie M. Chapman, Englewood, N. J.; Fred L. Charles, DeKalb, Ills.; John S. Codman, West Roxbury, Mass.; Leon J. Cole, New Haven, Conn.; Francis A. Corey, Keene, N. H., Mrs. Annie F. Cutler, Chelsea, Mass.; Wm. M. Derby, Jr., Chicago, Ills.; Mary C. Dickerson, New York City; Gaines R. Donoho, East Hampton, L. I.; J. Sumner Draper, Readville, Mass.; L. P. Emerson, Cambridge, Mass.; G. Clyde Fisher, De Funiak Springs, Florida; Richard E. Follett, Boston, Mass.; Mrs. Teresa I. French, Canton, Mass.; Edward F. Gaines, Ritzville, Wash.; Frank C. Gates, Chicago, Ills.; Frank H. Genung, West Haven, Conn.; Ludlaw Griscom, New York City; J. H. Hackenberg, Frankfort, Pa.; Samuel A. Harper, Maywood, Ills.; Chas. G. Hart, East Berlin, Conn.; C. E. Heil, Needham, Mass.; Arthur O. Heinrich, Baldwin, L. I.; Mrs. Nancy W. C. Holt, Cambridge, Mass.; Miss Louise Howe, Brookline, Mass.; Lucius Hubbard, South Bend, Ind.; Roy M. Ives, Clare, Iowa; Chas. D. Kellogg, Philadelphia, Pa.; Clarence M. Keyes, Pullman, Wash.; Anthony R. Kuser, Bernardsville, N. J.; Miss Bertha Langmaid, Boston, Mass.; W. Charlesworth Levey, Brookline, Mass.; C. B. Linton, Long Beach, Calif.; Sam. A. Lurvey, Southwest Harbor, Maine; Mrs. Ida W. McIntire, Cambridge, Mass.; William C. Mackie, Brookline, Mass.; F. Schuyler Mathews, Cambridge, Mass.; Chas. Merriam, Weston, Mass.; Willard L. Metcalf, New York City; Emory E. Nelson, Winnipeg, Canada; Daniel S. Newhall, Strafford, Pa.; Lucius H. Paul, Newark, N. Y.; Willard A. Paul, Dorchester, Mass.; Albert S. Peters, Lake Wilson, Minn.; J. Trevett Pike, Lynn, Mass.; Mrs. Francis Piper, Arlington Heights, Mass.; Alexander Pope, Hingham, Mass.; Arthur E. Price, Grant Park, Ills.; Henry C. Raven, Bay Shore, L. I.; Chas. H. Remington, East Providence, R. I.; Philip E. Robinson, Boston, Mass.; Wm. P. Shannon, New York City; Wm. T. Shaw, Pullman, Wash.; J. F. Stevens, Lincoln, Nebr.; Nathan F. Stone, Shrewsbury, Mass.; Thos. C. Taylor, Hubbard Woods, Ills.; Louis

A. Test, Los Angeles, Cal.; Miss Harriet W. Thompson, Port Sanilac, Mich.; Samuel Thorne, New York City; Mrs. Kate D. Tower, Boston, Mass.; A. H. Tuttle, Cambridge, Mass.; Miss Lucy W. Valentine, Cambridge, Mass.; Arthur W. Van Pelt, New Orleans, La.; Adrian Van Rossem, Pasadena, Cal.; Isaac H. Vrooman, Jr., Albany, N. Y.; Miss Ella S. Wales, Dorchester, Mass.; Frank H. Ward, Albany, N. Y.; Goodwin Warner, Cambridge, Mass.; Thos. C. Wayland, Simsbury, Conn.; Gordon B. Wellman, Malden, Mass.; Alexander Wetmore, Lawrence, Ks.; Ely L. Whitehead, Evanston, Ills.; Miss Alice W. Wilcox, Providence, R. I.; Harry C. Williams, St. Louis, Mo.; Henry A. Wing, Maywood, Ills.; Mrs. Elizabeth J. Worcester, Waltham, Mass.; John T. Zimmer, Lincoln, Nebr.

Drs. Allen, Dwight, Merriam and Richmond, and Messrs. Brewster, Ridgway and Stone were reappointed 'Committee on Classification and Nomenclature of North American Birds.'

Drs. A. K. Fisher, E. A. Mearns and Thos. S. Roberts, and Messrs. Chapman and Deane were appointed 'Committee on Bird Protection.'

PUBLIC SESSIONS. *First Day.*—The meeting was called to order by the President, Mr. Nelson.

The papers read during the morning session were as follows:

'Bird Studies in Northern Ontario,' by W. E. Clyde Todd. Remarks followed by Drs. Townsend and Merriam.

'Canadian Bird Havens,' by Ernest T. Seton. In the absence of the author Mr. F. M. Chapman explained Mr. Seton's ideas on the subject.

'Scarcity of the Ruffed Grouse in 1907,' by E. Seymour Woodruff. Remarks followed by Mr. Forbush, the author, Drs. Tuttle and Fisher, and Messrs. Francis and Brewster.

'A way to lighten the burden of Nomenclature,' by Dr. Jonathan Dwight, Jr. Remarks followed by Drs. Allen and Merriam, Messrs. Stone, Chapman and Brewster, and the author.

The papers of the afternoon were:

'Vernacular names of birds,' by Dr. Jonathan Dwight, Jr. Remarks followed by Messrs. Rhoads, Bent, Todd, Batchelder, the author, and Drs. Merriam and Allen.

'The part played by Birds in the recent Field Mouse Plague in Nevada,' by Dr. C. Hart Merriam.

'A Hollow Tree,' by Ernest Thompson Seton, was read in the

absence of the author by Mr. Chapman. It was illustrated by lantern slides.

'Some Observations on the Gulls and Terns of Massachusetts,' by E. H. Forbush. Illustrated by lantern slides.

After adjournment, a reception to meet members of the Union was held from 4 to 6 o'clock, by Mr. and Mrs. Charles F. Batchelder at their home on Kirkland St.

In the evening the members of the Union and their friends met at dinner at the Oakley Country Club, Waverley.

Second Day.—The meeting was called to order by President Nelson.

The papers of the morning session were:

'The position of Birds Feet in Flight,' by Dr. Chas. W. Townsend. Remarks followed by Messrs. Francis, Chapman, and Finley.

'The First Bird Protective Society in Italy,' by Rev. W. R. Lord.

'The tagging of wild birds as a means of studying their movements,' by Dr. Leon J. Cole. Remarks followed by Drs. Hodge, Fisher, Bryan, Roberts, the author, and Messrs. Murdoch and Ells.

'Observations on the Black Mamo,' by Dr. W. A. Bryan. Remarks followed by Messrs. Brewster and Henshaw, and the author.

'Experiences of an Ornithologist in Costa Rica,' by M. A. Carriker, Jr.

The following papers were presented at the afternoon session:

'Ornithological Miscellany from Audubon Wardens,' by B. S. Bowdish.

'A study of a breeding colony of Yellow-headed Blackbirds, with an account of destruction of the progeny of the entire colony by some unknown agency,' by Dr. Thos. S. Roberts. It was illustrated by lantern slides.

'Propagation of Bob-white,' by Prof. C. F. Hodge.

The concluding papers were by Frank M. Chapman, both being illustrated by lantern slides and moving pictures: 'Methods of study of the Nesting Habits of Birds,' and 'Pelican Island in 1908, with other Florida Notes.'

In the evening Mrs. Charles F. Batchelder invited the ladies of the Union to her house, and Mr. William Brewster gave a reception for the gentlemen of the Union at his Museum.

Third Day.—The meeting was called to order by President Nelson.

The papers of the session, all illustrated by lantern slides, were:

'Triumphs of Bird Protection in Louisiana,' by Rev. Herbert K. Job.

'Through Eastern Oregon,' by William L. Finley.

Resolutions were adopted thanking the Museum authorities of Harvard University for the use of the Geological and Zoölogical Lecture-rooms; to the Nuttall Ornithological Club for the very cordial welcome and most generous hospitality extended to the visiting members and friends of the Union; to Mr. and Mrs. Charles F. Batchelder and Mr. William Brewster, for the kind attention shown the members and friends of the Union, and to Col. and Mrs. John E. Thayer for the polite invitation to the members of the Union to visit their home and museum at Lancaster, Mass.

On Friday, November 20, after adjournment of the Union, a "pilgrimage" was made to Lancaster, Mass., by some seventy members and friends of the Union. The party was most cordially received by Col. and Mrs. John E. Thayer, and an inspection made of their fine museum and valuable ornithological library.

The next meeting of the Union will be held in New York City, commencing December 6, 1909.

The registered attendance of members at this Stated Meeting was much larger than ever before, and the social features will long be remembered.

JNO. H. SAGE,
Secretary.